

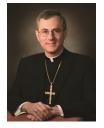


First Sunday of Advent

# PARISH BULLETIN

Serving the communities of St. Josephine Bakhita African Caribbean Community, St. Michael's Parish, and St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica

November 27, 2022



Most Rev. Ronald P. Fabbro, C.S.B. Bishop of London



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## **Open Your Heart**

"Today, the First Sunday of the Time of Advent, a new liturgical year begins. In these four weeks of Advent, the liturgy leads us to celebrate the Nativity of Jesus, while it reminds us that he comes into our lives every day, and will return gloriously at the end of time. This certainty enables us to look trustfully to the future, as we are invited to do by the prophet Isaiah, who with his inspired voice accompanies the entire Advent journey.

In today's First Reading, Isaiah prophesies that "it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it" (Is 2:2). The temple of the Lord in Jerusalem is presented as the point of convergence and meeting of all peoples. After the Incarnation of the Son of God, Jesus revealed himself as the true temple. Therefore, the marvellous vision of Isaiah is a divine promise and impels us to assume an attitude of pilgrimage, of a journey towards Christ, the meaning and end of all history. Those who hunger and thirst for justice can only find it by following the ways of the Lord, while evil and sin come from the fact that individuals and social groups prefer to follow paths dictated by selfish interests, which cause conflict and war. Advent is the time to welcome the coming of Jesus, who comes as a messenger of peace to show us the ways of God.

In today's Gospel, Jesus exhorts us to be ready for His coming: "Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (Mt 24:42). Keeping watch does not mean to have one's eyes physically open, but to have one's heart free and facing the right direction, ready to give and to serve. This is keeping watch! The slumber from which we must awaken is constituted of indifference, of vanity, of the inability to establish genuine human relationships, of the inability to take charge of our brother and sister who is alone, abandoned or ill. The expectation of Jesus who is coming must therefore translate into a commitment to vigilance. It is above all a question of wonder before God's action, at his surprises, and of according him primacy. Vigilance also means, in a concrete sense, being attentive to our neighbour in difficulty, allowing oneself to be called upon by his needs, without waiting for him or her to ask us for help, but learning to foresee, to anticipate, as God always does with us.

May Mary, the vigilant Virgin and Mother of hope, guide us on this journey, helping us to turn our gaze towards the "mountain of the Lord", the image of Jesus Christ, that attracts all men and all peoples."

#### Bazaar 2022: Thank you all!

It all happens at St. Michael's. Christmas was in the air on Nov. 19th. The weather cooperated so many visitors could attend. The 2022 Bazaar was a huge success thanks to volunteers, artisans, bakers, knitters, generous donors, vendors and the dedicated Planning Committee under the leadership of Karen Owens. Visitors felt welcomed by our friendly parish family volunteers, appreciated the creative talents of parishioners on display and the variety and overwhelming number of Christmas items for sale. Also very popular: The Draw Table, Silent Auction and a delicious lunch. Kids to Kids Korner, initiated by Lynda Ducharme, was a big success. Gently used items donated by our elementary students sold for great prices. We hope this event planted seeds for students' future engagement in church activities.

This event raised \$11,000 and all proceeds will support economically vulnerable adults and children in our community through social outreach programs. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of Bazaar 2022!

#### Flowers for Christmas

We are collecting monetary donations to offset the cost of flowers for our Christmas celebrations.

Donations may be made in the name of family or friends, deceased or living, for whom you may wish to pray. These names will be placed in the bulletin and remembered in prayer throughout the Season of Christmas. To make a contribution, please seal donations in an envelope, along with your name, address and phone number as well as the name of the person you are honouring and drop it in the Sunday collection or mail in to the office. Donations can also be made by e-transfer to either parish at <a href="mailto:stmichological.ca">stmichlon@dol.ca</a> or <a href="mailto:basilica@dol.ca">basilica@dol.ca</a>, memo line- Flowers for Christmas.

Please indicate the same information as above in an email to the office. Thank you for your generosity.

#### St. Michaels' Parish Remembrance Tree

Our annual Remembrance Tree will be decorated again this year with beautiful symbols remembering those who are no longer able to be with us at Christmas. Envelopes to have an

ornament made with the name of your loved one are available in the narthex of the church and can be put into the offertory bowl. Proceeds assist us in the purchase of the Christmas flowers. Please submit names by Tuesday, **December 20, 2022**. Ornaments will be available for pick up the weekend of Jan 14-15, 2023.

## "Prelude to Christmas" Concert at St. Michael's

The choirs at St. Michael's are all coming together for a concert on Sunday, **December 11th** at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to join in an evening of joyous carols to celebrate the season. *Admission by donation*.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Updates

#### St. Michael's Parish

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul collection for the needy within our parish boundary is the 2nd Sunday of each month. Thank you for your support. Make cheques payable to St. Michael's Parish and write SSVP on the memo line, or select SSVP from the drop-down list on Pllenty, <a href="https://www.lncc.dol.ca/donate-to-st-michaels">https://www.lncc.dol.ca/donate-to-st-michaels</a>

\*\*\*

Angel Tree 2022. Please find it in your hearts to make a monetary donation for an 'Angel Tree' child this Christmas. St. Vincent de Paul members will then purchase food and gift cards to distribute safely to families in need within our parish boundary. Cash or cheques may be placed in the envelope and dropped off in the SSVP baskets at both entrances of the Church before and after each weekend Mass, or at the parish office weekdays, or donate electronically through Pllenty by December 4. Tax receipts will be issued for cheque and electronic donations. Your generous donations are so very much appreciated to lift the spirits of our children in need during this Christmas season.



#### St. Peter's Cathedral

Angel Tree 2022. The St. Vincent de Paul Society will be distributing packages to those in need of gift cards and we are asking for monetary contributions and/or \$10 gift cards. Please drop your gift card or monetary contributions into the offertory basket at Mass this or give it to one of the SSVP volunteers at the entrances to the Cathedral after Mass. Donations can also be made online at the St Peter's Cathedral website specifying the SSVP drop down and adding "Angel Tree" in the comments section. Gift cards from Shoppers Drug Mart, Giant Tiger, Walmart, any of the Dollar Stores and Tim Hortons are recommended and appreciated. Distribution to families will take place on Saturday, December 10.

In past years, we have been told by some recipients of your gifts that this had been their one source of Christmas cheer. Thank you in advance for your generosity - your gift will bring joy to someone over this special season.



# Development and Peace Membership Campaign

Development and peace draws strength from its 11,000 members across Canada.

They act for justice; every year supporting education, advocacy and the annual fundraising campaign, Share Lent.

Lifetime memberships cost \$10, or you may join as a month donor. Memberships are free for people under 35.

Sign up at <u>devp.org</u> to join as a monthly donor, or pick up forms from the Welcome Desk in the narthex.



#### **Sunday Missals**

The 2022/2023 Sunday Missals for the new liturgical year are now available. Cost is \$5.00.



#### **Advent Mission**

Our parish is offering a mission during the season of Advent themed "Change & Mission." The three wise men knew they had to journey to find a savior, and this journey changed them. They did not return home the same way they came. Such is the case in our relationship with Christ. Advent is a time to look at where we are, and examine what might need to change when we encounter Christ.

Please join us for this Advent Mission given by Father Christopher Pietraszko. There is no registration required, it is free, and the location is at St. Michael's Parish (511 Cheapside St. London, ON).

Wednesday, December 14th - 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Moving From Christendom to an Apostolic Era

Thursday, December 15th - 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Evangelization & the Family

Friday, December 16th - 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Night of Worship and Penance (Confession Available)

A social will follow in the hall on Dec. 16, thanks to the CWL's of St. Peter's Cathedral and St. Michael's Parishes.

# Journey Through Advent Video Reflections with Bishop Dabrowski

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) presents *Journey through Advent with Auxiliary Bishop Dabrowski*. Join in reflections on the Scriptures for all the Sundays of Advent in 2022. On this First Sunday of Advent, Bishop Dabrowski provides a reflection on waiting at the video can be found at this link.



#### Family Faith Fun Kits-Advent Edition

Learn about the "Story of the Four Candles", make an Advent wreath, a "Star of Bethlehem", and do fun Advent—themed activities with your family and friends! Find a compilation of these

fun activities in our Family Faith Fun Kits—Advent Edition. The electronic copy can be accessed <a href="here">here</a> and a paper copy can be obtained by connecting with our Family & Youth Minister, <a href="Leigh Duckworth">Leigh Duckworth</a>.

If you are online, share your creations on Facebook and Instagram by using the hashtag, #FamilyFaithFunKits . Don't forget to tag us, @Incc\_dol!

Remember, Advent is more than just a delicious chocolate calendar that helps us count down to Christmas Day. Advent is a four-week season, and should be a time of preparation for Christmas, the day that we celebrate Jesus' coming into our world!

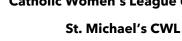
**Advent Reflection Books** are available at all entrances of the church to guide you in your Advent Journey. We have a variety of resources for all ages.



#### St. Josephine Bakhita Community December Mass

The St. Josephine Bakhita African & Carribean Catholic Community will hold its monthly Mass on **December 18th** at 2:30 PM at St. Michael's Parish. Mark your calendars and we hope to see you there!

### **Catholic Women's League Updates**



Festive Fall Bake Sale. The St. Michaels' CWL will be hosting a sale of baked goods after all masses on December 3rd and 4th. The League is looking for your support through donations of baking, as well as through the purchase of items on the sale weekend. The funds raised will be used to help the many groups and organizations that have come to count on the Catholic Women's League for their needs. Thank you to our CWL members and parish community for supporting this event. Donations of baked goods may be dropped off in the church hall before masses on December 3rd and 4th.

\*\*

**Christmas Social and Birthright Shower.** New this year - A daytime celebration! All women of the parish are invited to attend the CWL Christmas Social and Birthright Shower on Saturday, **December 3rd**, at 9:30 am in the St. John Paul II Room. It will be a wonderful morning with holiday treats, carolling and a gift exchange (\$5.00 gift limit).

Members are also kindly asked to bring a baby gift for our Birthright Shower. Gift suggestions include unisex clothing to fit children up to 6 months, baby bedding, diapers, bath supplies and Wal-Mart gift cards. Small items for the new mom are also welcome: travel-size shampoos, shower gel, etc.

PLEASE NOTE: There is no Monday evening meeting this December.

#### St. Peter's CWL

**Christmas Treat Trays.** St. Peter's CWL is offering treat trays ready for pick up Friday **December 9th** between 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Cost is \$25.00 Minimum 35 pieces of homemade goodies. Place your order by contacting Marian Strom at <a href="mailto:mstrom55@gmail.com">mstrom55@gmail.com</a> or by phone 519-872-5502.

\*\*\*

Reminder for CWL members wishing to bring white socks for 519 Pursuit to our December CWL General meeting on Saturday, **December 3rd** at 11:00 am in Room 105. It will truly be a celebration of our faith, accomplishments, community of service for one and another that has taken place over the past year.

\*\*\*

Christmas is coming, do you have someone hard to buy for? Give the gift of sisterhood, where faith, fun, and fulfillment is our mission. St. Peter's CWL memberships are available by contacting Jo Guth by email, <u>jguth@execulink.com</u> or by phone 519-672-7479. What a wonderful Christmas gift, one that just keeps giving! CWL Membership fee, \$40.00.

\*\*\*

St. Peter's CWL is very grateful to our parishioners, volunteers, donors and patrons for their support at this year's St. Peter's Parish Christmas Bazaar. It was a fantastic event and it would not have happened without YOU! Thank you.

### **REQUESTED MASS INTENTIONS**



#### **Tuesday, November 29**

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Colin Tyrone Traher requested by Christopher Pietraszko Intentions of Stephanie requested by Julianna Bodnar For Peace requested by Anna Kovacic

### St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Leo Buragina

Intentions of Virgi Lea Aguas

In Thanksgiving & Intentions of the Kmet Family

### Wednesday, November 30

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Fr. Stephen Bodnar requested by the Bodnar Family Mary Black requested by Julianna Bodnar Jim & Margaret Ryan requested by Mike & Colleen Williams

### St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Jeffrey Baldwin Virginia Lisondra

Intentions of Fran Dittrich

### Thursday, December 1

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Lawrence Hamilton requested by Gisele Hamilton Deceased & Living Family & Friends of the Solis/Reyes Family Elizabeth Mathew requested by George Mathew

#### St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Noreen Woods Steven Cox Beth Kassam

### Friday, December 2

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Lawrence Hamilton requested by Gisele & Family Jerzy Ner requested by Janina Ner Alphons VanTol requested by The Suire/Van Tol Families

# St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Larry Mellen Leo Buragina

Intentions of the Thomson Family

**We remember in prayer** all those who are sick. We also pray for those who have died including Darrell Holmes, son of Deanna; and Barbara Devlin, mother of Peter; and comfort those who mourn.

# We pray for those serving in pastoral ministry throughout our diocese:

Jessica Jarvis, Coordinator of Youth Ministry; Deacon Paul Bezaire; Erwin Fung, Coordinator of Parish Ministries; Deacon Fred Truchon; Rev. Louis Mousseau, O.F.M. Cap.;

Rebecca Bondy, Pastoral Minister/Coordinator of Youth Ministry; Rev. Robert Champagne



#### READINGS FOR DECEMBER 4, 2022 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading - Isaiah 11.1-10 Responsorial - Ps 72.1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 R. In his days may righteousness flourish, and peace abound forever. Second Reading - Romans 15.4-9 Gospel - Matthew 3.1-12

### **MASS TIMES**

### Weekdays

### St. Michael's Parish:

Tuesday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.

#### St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica:

Tuesday-Friday: Noon

#### Weekends

### St. Michael's Parish:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.;

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

#### St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.;

Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

### St. Josephine Bakhita:

4th Sunday of the month, 2:30 p.m. (St. Michael's)



Livestreamed Mass: Saturdays at 5:00 p.m., St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica



### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**St. Michael's:** Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

**St. Peter's Cathedral:** Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

Or contact one of our priests for an appointment.

#### **CONTACT US**

#### St. Michael's Parish

Office and Mail:

511 Cheapside Street, London, Ontario N5Y 3X5

Tel./Fax 519-433-6689

stmichlon@dol.ca

# St. Josephine Bakhita African Caribbean Catholic Community

c/o St. Michael's Parish

511 Cheapside Street, London, Ontario N5Y 3X5

Contact Amedeo Awai

stjosephinebakhita2020@gmail.com

#### St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica

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